

## THE GEOGRAPHY OF GLOBAL WARFARE

THE first Esso War Map, published in 1942 and still available on request, featured transportation routes by sea, air, and land throughout the world. At that time logistics—the transportation and supply of men and war materials—was the United Nations' most pressing problem. Now that Americans are in the thick of the

THE territory covered by the larger of these two maps, on the other side, may seem unusual to American eyes. It was selected because of the totally different viewpoint called for by the new global warfare.

Some twenty-five years ago a prominent English geographer, Sir Halford J. Mackinder, published certain novel theories as to the influence of geography on history and more particularly on military history. Instead of considering the world in the conventional manner as divided into continents, he looked at it realistically as consisting of one principal land mass surrounded by water and scattered islands. This main body includes what we are accustomed to call Europe, Asia and Africa, and to it he gave the name World Island. (See "Democratic Ideals and Reality" by Sir Halford J. Mackinder, republished, 1942, by Henry Holt and Company, New York, \$2.50.)

He asserted that any country which became master of Eastern Europe could control this World Island and eventually the entire world. German political geographers of the 1920's seized on Mackinder's ideas and twisted them to suit their purpose. They established an Institute of Geopolitics and spent huge sums of money gathering data all over the world to implement these theories. Hitler's plan of world conquest is believed to have been very strongly influenced

by the German version of Mackinder's ideas. Hitler's efforts to gain control of Russia, first by commercial alliance and then by the sword, follow the design for world conquest outlined by this English geographer.

Whether we agree with Mackinder or not, his concept of the World Island suggests exactly the map that is required for the best general picture of World War II. With air power taking the lead in warfare, continents today mean nothing. The protective isolation of the oceans has vanished, if indeed it ever existed. Europe is only a few minutes' flight from Africa. Australia is only a few hours by bomber from Asia.

On the other hand, high-speed transportation by air, rail, and road have placed a new value on control of vast areas of land. The fastnesses of the Urals, inaccessible until recently, have become a safe arsenal for the Russian front. Manchuria becomes a manufacturing center for Japan. Even Germany came to depend more and more for supplies on Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary because they were temporarily safe from bombs.

This latest Esso map has taken these features into consideration. And it presents on one sheet of paper and on the best possible scale all the fighting fronts past, present, and future from Norway to New Guinea and from North Africa to the Aleutians.

As explained in the first Esso War Map, a projection is an orderly method of depicting the surface of a sphere, the earth, on a flat surface such as this sheet of paper. Numerous projections are available, each having certain advantages, depending on the area of the earth to be shown, the purpose for which the map is to be used, and the amount and kind of distortion permissible for you must remember that a sphere cannot be developed into a flat surface without distortion of some sort.

For the World Island map, since it encompasses two thirds of the earth's circumference, we have adopted the same Miller projection used for the previous Esso War Map, on which its advantages are set forth. On the other hand, the map of Europe presents a different problem, since it includes only a small part of the earth's surface. Here it is possible to use a conventional projection that involves only slight distortion of shape and distance. However, if this same projection, so excellent in its place, were used for the World Island, the distortions would become very great—and annoying to the user. For example, at the edges of the map countries would be up-side down or nearly so.

THE spelling of names on maps of foreign countries is always a difficult problem for a mapmaker, particularly where the native names are written locally in characters different from ours. On these Esso Maps the policy is to use the Anglicized form of the name wherever one exists. Thus Leghorn is given instead of the Italian name Livorno, Munich instead of the German München, Dublin instead of Baile Átha Cliath. In other words, we follow customary American newspaper practice with these names.

The vast majority of names, however, have never been Anglicized. Where the characters are the same as ours, we follow the accepted local spelling. Where the characters differ, we transcribe phonetically according to the rules adopted by the U. S. Geographic Board. Thus we show the Russian city of **БЕРДИК** as Berydik.

In a very few instances where both native and

Anglicized versions are in common use we show both as in Smyrna (Izmir), Iran (Persia).

Many languages, although they use the same Roman letters as the English alphabet, have additional letters to represent certain sounds. Thus, Nij in Yugoslavia is pronounced Nish. The Polish letter "P", not to be confused with "P", is pronounced not nearly like the English "w", for example, Bielsko, pronounced Biyah-wie-toh. In order to avoid the clumsy makeshift of turning these additional letters into English letters having the same sound, we have used the spellings that appear on native maps of these countries, including accents and diacritical marks. Thus Constanta, Rumania, might be spelled phonetically in English as Constanta, but that's not the way a Rumanian would write it. (For the pronunciation of several thousand place names see "War Maps" by W. Cabell Greer, Columbia University Press, New York, 1943, \$1.50.)

look and Chelyabinsk, near Tashkent in Central Asia, and in the Khasia Basin in Sikkim. These are important permanent additions to the geography of the world.

New cities to be developed throughout Africa, Russia, Iran, and China for the transportation of military supplies. Some of these routes are likely to be used commercially after the war, and we have felt it doubly important to include them on this Esso Map.

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GLOBAL war has brought thousands of unfamiliar places into the news. These Esso War Maps show them. Also the exigencies of war have caused new cities to be built in hitherto populated sections. Our mapmakers have gone to great pains to show the location of many entirely new industrial centers that have been developed in the last two or three years. For instance, dozens of large new cities have sprung up in the Ural Mountain region around Sverd-

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Esso



# THE WORLD ISLAND

— Railroads (broken line indicates construction)  
— Roads  
— Oil Pipe Lines  
— Steamship Routes  
— Air Line Distances  
— Shipping Distances  
— Prominent Peaks (Elevation in feet)  
— Deserts  
— Capitals or Administrative Centers  
— Capitals, Autonomous Soviet Republics  
— Largest Cities  
— Other Communities  
— Arctic Stations  
— International Boundaries  
— Marshes

Miller Cylindrical projection. Scale at equator 1" = 500 miles. See Graphic Scale below.  
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This map was first issued in 1943 and is a part of the collection of General Drafting Co., Inc.  
LITHOGRAPHED IN U.S.A.

## ESSO MARKETERS



### Graphic Scale for Esso World Island Map

**FIGURING MILEAGES ON THIS MAP**

For distances running approximately east and west the accompanying scale can be used. Since the map scale increases north or south from the equator, be careful to use the line on the scale corresponding to the average latitude of the line between the desired points. For example, the midpoint of the line Dutch Harbor-Tokyo is about 45° north. Hence use scale for 45°.

Distances approximately north and south can be figured by finding the number of degrees of latitude between the points by reference to the marks along left and right edges of the map. Each degree equals about 69 statute miles. Note that while the number of miles to a degree is constant, the actual length of graduations increases north or south from the equator, due to the nature of the projection used on this map.

**OIL IS AMMUNITION USE IT WISELY!**

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WHISTANCE-SMITH  
COLLECTION